

**Rugby club loses to its alumni***KSU student and Fort Riley Soldiers join forces for rugby*

Page 11

Fort Riley Post

Gage Park offers zoo, more*Topeka Zoo great family entertainment*

Page 19



Friday, September 9, 2005

America's Warfighting Center

Vol. 48, No. 36

Around The Army**Fort Benning:**

The Bayonet reported Aug. 26 that 19 Soldiers had been taken to Martin Army Community Hospital Aug. 16 after a near-strike by a lightning bolt.

All Soldiers checked out fine and were returned to duty with no adverse side effects, said the unit's executive officer.

For more on this story and other Fort Benning, Ga., news, visit www.the-bayonet.com on the Web.

Fort Hood:

The Sentinel reported Aug. 18 that two Soldiers witnessed an accident in which an SUV went out of control and rolled over.

Without hesitation, the two Soldiers crossed the highway median and began rendering assistance to the vehicle's occupants.

"All you could see was smoke coming up and a foot sticking out," recalled one of the Soldiers.

The three teenage girls were responsive but seriously injured, one Soldier recalled.

For more on this story and other Fort Hood, Texas, news, visit www.militarynews.com/sentinel on the Web.

Alaska:

The Alaska Post reported Sept. 2 that contamination concerns had halted construction on the Taku Garden housing expansion project at Fort Wainwright.

The military and civilian communities were working together to develop a plan for collecting and testing soil samples.

Construction in late June resulted in solvent-like odor emitting from the soil.

For more on this story and other U.S. military news in Alaska, visit www.usarak.army.mil on the Web.

Fort Polk:

The Guardian reported Aug. 19 that ground had been broken for an \$11 million project at England Air Park.

The enhancement is a Military Passenger Processing Facility to process troops and their equipment before and after deployments.

After completion, the facility is expected to process and deploy troops to anywhere in the world within 96 hours.

For more on this story and other Fort Polk, La., news, visit www.jrcc-polk.army.mil on the Web.

Fort Irwin:

The High Desert Warrior reported Aug. 25 that six Black Hawk helicopters and crews supported the landing of the Space Shuttle Discovery at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., Aug. 9.

For more on this story and other news at the National Training Center, visit www.irwin.army.mil on the Web.

Soldiers head home to help out

*Hurricane Katrina's devastation touches close to home for Fort Riley families***More inside:**

Air Guard aviators rescue hounded. See page 7.

Military volunteers for relief outnumber need. See page 10.

By April Blackmon
and Stephanie Perrin
Staff writers

Visiting family members for the Labor Day weekend took an unexpected turn for two Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters

Company, 1st Engineer Battalion. Sgt. Jacob Podgurski began the estimated 11-hour drive to Mississippi Sept. 1 to help his father, stepmother and two sisters who had evacuated from their home because of Hurricane Katrina. The Soldiers of 1st Eng. Bn. collected donations to help fund

Podgurski's journey. The Soldiers donated about \$500, said Sgt. 1st Class James Griffith, Podgurski's platoon sergeant. The donated money was divided between Podgurski and another Soldier in the battalion whose family also was affected by the storm. The First United Methodist

Church donated \$50 to help supply Podgurski with gallon jugs of water and other necessities for the trip. The church's donation filled two shopping carts full of gallon and one-liter jugs of drinking water.

See Katrina, Page 3

Caring for kids



Jessica McCarthy, an FCC provider at Fort Riley, helps her daughter, Alexia, onto a rocking horse while they both look into a mirror mounted strategically for small children in the play area of her home-based care center.

Post/Blackmon

Post needs qualified child care providers

By April Blackmon
Staff writer

Parents looking for child care may find it difficult to locate Family Child Care providers on post. Fort Riley recently lost nine of its 22 providers to the summer season, deployments and moves. Newly trained providers have brought the number back to 17.

The FCC program is functioning at less than its potential; however, with dramatic population increases predicted for Fort Riley in the next several years,

finding qualified providers could soon become virtually impossible.

That's why Fort Riley's Family Child Care program is seeking more providers. Current regulations allow for about 30 providers and FCC Director Kay Forman is looking to reach that goal.

The need for infant care is especially critical. In fact, it's the office's No. 1 concern, Forman said.

"We have a lot of people requesting infant care ... homes can only have two

See Care providers, Page 2



Fort Riley FCC provider Janet McCormack works on Mr. Potato Head with Hannah Leasure (left) and Tamorena Buschke.

Post/Blackmon

3rd BCT Soldiers find weapons, foil bombers

More inside:

4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery, civil affairs unit conducts area survey. See page 4.

Guardsmen attached to 3rd Brigade Combat Team divert car bombers. See page 6.

Weekly roundup of key Coalition actions in Iraq and Afghanistan. See page 6.

Task Force Baghdad patrol nabs suspected triggerman

By Kevin Bromley
3rd BCT PAO

BAGHDAD — A Task Force Baghdad patrol was attacked with a roadside bomb in the late evening hours of Aug. 20 and later detained a suspect in the attack.

In the wake of the explosion, the Soldiers of Company B, 1st Battalion, 13th Armored Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, did a hasty

search of nearby houses and found a man in one of the homes.

The Iraqi man denied having any weapons. However, a search of his residence produced an AK-47 assault rifle, a sniper rifle, 40 to 50 circuit boards and 10 magazines of ammunition.

He also had a pair of binoculars and a periscope device for long-range surveillance.

The man was detained for further questioning.

Dragnet snares men, material

By Kevin Bromley
3rd BCT PAO

BAGHDAD — Task Force Baghdad Soldiers conducting security operations north of Baghdad recently responded to small-arms fire nearby and joined Iraqi Police to capture two terrorists.

Soldiers of 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor, and Iraqi Police established a hasty traffic checkpoint to search cars coming from the direction of the shots.

The patrol stopped two Iraqi men in a black car and discovered

one of the men was wounded and the other was trying to eat a note describing an attack on a Forward Operating Base.

A search of the car produced bomb-making materials, including five telephone receivers, six radios, two cell phones (one wired to a radio), six washing machine timers, five extended-range antennae and batteries.

The men also had \$1,400 in \$100 U.S. bills.

The Soldiers detained both men for further questioning and moved one to a hospital for care.





Post news in brief

Vehicle sticker office moved

Vehicle registration operations have moved from the Marshall Army Air Field site to the 12th Street controlled access point while bridge work is being done on Henry Drive. Hours of operation will be from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday only.

Air conditioning shut off slated

Weather permitting, the air conditioning turn off on post will begin Sept. 26 and continue through Sept. 30 according to the following schedule:

- Administration buildings
 - Barracks
 - Bachelor enlisted quarters and bachelor officer quarters with individual units
 - The 8000 area
 - Dining facilities
 - Community buildings
- Heating systems are scheduled to be turned starting Oct. 11 and continuing through Oct. 28 in the following order:
- Barracks
 - Bachelor officer and bachelor enlisted quarters
 - The 8000 area
 - Community buildings
 - Administration buildings
 - Dining facilities
 - Motor pools

The heating and cooling systems in chapels, child development, medical and dental buildings will be maintained as appropriate. Family housing occupants control their own heat and air conditioning systems as desired.

The authorized temperature for the heating season is 65-70 degrees.

For more information, call Steve Fief at 239-3908.

Katrina cripples finance center

Due to Hurricane Katrina, Thrift Savings Program operations at the National Finance Center in New Orleans have been suspended. Recently submitted requests or confirmations of recent requests may be delayed.

TSP participants can assist the center's staff as follows: Use the Account Access section of the center's Web site to request TSP transactions, such as interfund transfers, contribution allocations and PIN requests, and to make address changes (if you are a separated participant).

In some cases, patrons may also be able to request and complete a loan or withdrawal on the Web site.

Do not send paper loan and withdrawal requests; neither mail nor fax can be received at this time.

If you need TSP materials, obtain them from the Web site or your agency or service.

Direct general TSP questions to your agency or service. Participant Service Representatives at the parallel call center are handling all calls. Depending on call volume, patrons may experience a delay when contacting a PSR.

Warrant officer team to brief

A warrant officer recruiting team from Headquarters, U.S. Army Recruiting Command, Fort Knox, Ky., will brief Fort Riley Soldiers on the qualifications and application procedures for becoming a warrant officer in the Army.

Briefings will be conducted in Room 1 of the Digital Training Facility, Building 7285, on Custer Hill at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Oct. 3-5 and at 9:30 a.m. Oct. 6.

Current warrant officer shortages exist for military intelligence, food service, criminal investigations and special forces fields.

For more information, call Chief Warrant Officer Anthony L. Edwards at (502) 626-0328 or send him e-mail at Anthony.L.Edwards@usarec.army.mil.

Care providers

continued from page 1

FCC provider criteria:

Must be at least 18 years old.

Must have high school certificate or GED.

Must not have any convictions of, admission to or evidence of child abuse or neglect, family violence, alcohol abuse or illegal drug use.

Must be able to speak, read and write English.

Cannot hold another job.

you with almost everything you need - from a first aid kit to toys," Forman said.

In addition to providing items to set up a home, the FCC provides free training.

"A lot of times, (providers) would have to go to community colleges for courses. CYS (Child and Youth Services) provides them for free."

In fact, it's possible for the training providers receive to be applied toward a college degree. And FCC providers can earn their Child Development Associate credential and even receive national accreditation from the National Association for Family Child Care.

The ideal FCC provider, Forman said, must have a genuine love and concern for children and

one who enjoys watching children develop.

"They must be extremely patient and should be calm and understanding. They have to have the energy to interact with children for up to 12 hours a day," she said. "This is a job only for emotionally stable and mature (people) who already have well-organized homes and a sense of scheduling."

Providers such as Jessica McCarty, emphasized the need to be organized.

"You definitely have to be organized and a planner. You have to have lesson plans, menus and activity schedules. You have to follow the regulations, the SOP (Standard Operating Procedure)," she said.

It's also important for the provider's family to be supportive.

"This has to be a family affair. It's tremendously important that the spouse supports his wife emotionally ... Kids have to be willing to understand this is the family's work," Forman said.

Having a supportive family has made long-time provider Janet McCormack's job easier.

"I have a lot of family support. My husband helped out a lot before he deployed. My 6-year-old loves it; she grew up with it. You have to have a lot of support because you have to work all hours of the day and even weekends," McCormack said.

For a list of childcare providers, contact the FCC office at 239-4313 or Central Enrollment at 239-4847.

JAG Corps seeks officers to attend law schools

Staff Judge Advocate

The Fort Riley Office of The Judge Advocate General is accepting applications for the Army's Funded Legal Education Program.

Under this program, the Army projects sending up to 15 active duty commissioned officers to law school at government expense.

The number of officers selected is dependent upon availability of funding. Selected officers will attend law school beginning in the fall of 2006 and will remain on duty during law school.

This program is open to commissioned officers in the rank of second lieutenant through captain.

Interested officers should review Chapter 14, Army Regulation 27-1 (The Judge Advocate General's Funded Legal Education Program) to determine their eligibility.

Applicants must have at least two but not more than six years of total active federal ser-

vice at the time legal training begins. Eligibility is governed by statute and is non-waivable.

Eligible officers interested in applying should immediately register for the fall offering of the Law School Admissions Test.

Applicants must send their request through command channels, to include the officer's branch manager at Army Human Resources Command, with a copy furnished to the Office of The Staff Judge Advocate, ATTN: DAJA-PT (Ms. Yvonne Caron), 1777 N. Kent St., Rosslyn, VA 22209-2194.

Applications must be received before Nov. 1, 2005.

Submission of the application well in advance of the deadline is advised.

Fort Riley officers interested in the program should contact the Fort Riley Office of the Staff Judge Advocate for more information.

The OSJA point of contact is Capt. William Johnson at 239-3117.

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Post/Perrin
Sgt. 1st Class James Griffith (left), Staff Sgt. Larry Graham (center) and Sgt. Jacob Podgurski purchase two shopping carts full of bottled water Sept. 1. Podgurski will take the water to his family, who had to evacuate their New Orleans home because of Hurricane Katrina.

Katrina

continued from page 1

"(The church members) are more than happy to do this. This is something good to help everybody," said Staff Sgt. Larry Graham of 1st Eng. Bn.

Podgurski said his family was able to evacuate Aug. 28, the day before the hurricane stormed through New Orleans.

His father and youngest sister were on their way to northern Mississippi for a barrel racing event before the mandatory evacuation was ordered for New Orleans, Podgurski said. His step-mother and other sister joined them in Mississippi after they received the orders to evacuate.

He has been in contact with them through cellular phones and said communicating has been difficult.

"Communications (with his family) have been wish-washy," Podgurski said. "Eleven p.m. at night has been the best time to contact them. During the day, I can't contact them."

The owner of the ranch that was hosting the barrel race has invited refugees to stay on the ranch, he said. The ranch currently has no electricity and the water pressure is low and Podgurski said he fears it will stop working soon.

Podgurski received added help for the trip when Griffith offered the Soldier his truck to drive to Mississippi. Podgurski said his car didn't have the needed room to carry supplies and his family members once he reaches them.

He said he also planned to bring extra gas cans of gasoline, because he was unsure if gas would be available in the south.

After he arrives in Mississippi, Podgurski plans to drive his sisters to their grandmother's house in Indiana to enroll in school there.

"They're going to get enrolled in school. They're from New Orleans, and obviously school is not going to be in session," Podgurski said.

He said his father and step-mother are planning to stay in Mississippi to help with the relief efforts.

"I just feel a need to go down there. It's my family, and they lost everything," Podgurski said.

"Their chain of command will

support them, and everybody is more than generous to help get these Soldiers and their family members squared away," Graham said.

Pfc. Crissy Eaton, a native of Slidell, La., has not heard from her family since Hurricane Katrina hit Aug. 29.

Slidell lives close to New Orleans, where power and communication with the outside world has been cut off. Not hearing from her family is very frustrating for Eaton.

"It's really nerve-racking," she said.

Eaton's hometown was flooded, she said. With roads closed or washed away, she's not able to go check on the family.

"It's pretty tore up everywhere. I can't believe it. You never really think something like this would happen," she said. "I was through a hurricane when I was 10, but it had nothing on this."

Eaton will be able to check on a grandmother who lives in McComb, Miss. She hasn't heard anything from her, either, so Eaton he started out on a 15-hour journey Sept. 1 to check on her.

"They have no electricity either. And I haven't been in touch with her. She's very sick, so I'm going to go check her out," Eaton said. "(I'm going to) help her if she needs help and get her out of there if she wants to."

Given the lack of communication, knowing how to assist Eaton on her journey was difficult, Graham said.

"Her situation, because she's had no contact, is tough," Graham said. "What do you take? You don't even know what they need. So we haven't been able to help her out in that extent. But the battalion pulled resources together ... to help cover some of the gas money."

The support the battalion was able to provide was greatly appreciated, Eaton said. "I'm happy that I have people to support me."

"Soldiers are our family, so their families are our families, as well. And we must take care of our own," said Maj. Shawn Hayes-Davis, battalion executive officer. "If there is any way we can help, we're there for our Soldiers."

Soldiers, civilian end Army careers

By Stephanie Perrin
Staff writer

Eight retiring Soldiers and one civilian employee were recognized for their service at a ceremony Aug. 31 at Ware Parade Field.

Each Soldier received a Meritorious Service Medal for outstanding military service. Lt. Col. Jeffrey McGee received the Legion of Merit for his exceptional outstanding service.

Retirees' spouses received certificates of appreciation recognizing their contributions and thanking them for the support they gave to their spouses' careers.

McGee of 3rd Brigade, 75th Division, retired after 20 years of military service. He plans to move to western Kansas to become a fourth generation family farmer.

First Sgt. Jeff Reade of Battery D, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, retired after 20 years of military service. He plans to live in Council Grove, Kan., and raise horses.

First Sgt. Mark Unruh of Company C, 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor, retired after 22 years of military service. He plans to live in Manhattan and assist in training

Nation Guard and Reserve Soldiers using combat simulators in Salina.

Sgt. 1st Class Samuel Irvin Jr. of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, retired after 20 years of military service. He plans to live in Chapman, Kan.

Sgt. 1st Class Annette Sweet of Medical Department Activity, retired after 20 years of military service. She plans to live and seek employment in Leavenworth, Kan.

Sgt. 1st Class Lucille Jackson of Detachment E, 15th Personnel Support Battalion, retired after 20 years of military service. She plans to live in Detroit and seek employment with the Federal Bureau of Investigations.

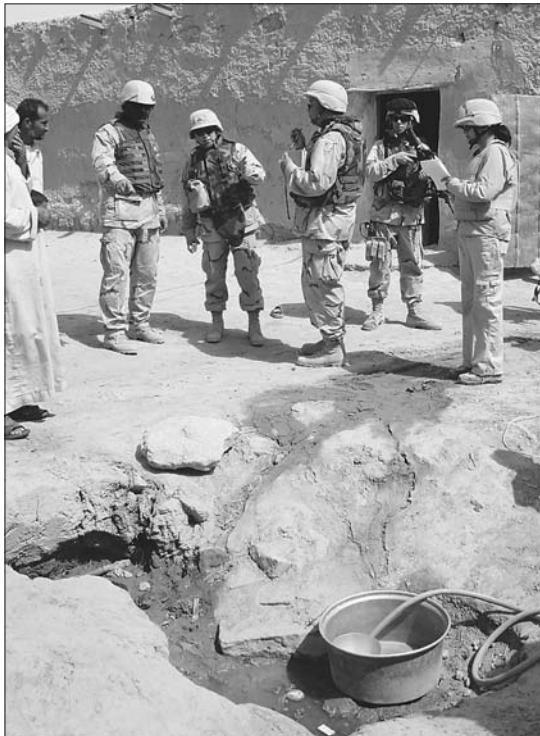
Sgt. 1st Class Rodney Davis of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 24 Infantry Division (Mech) retired after 20 years of military service. He plans to live in Wakarusa, Kan., to hunt and fish and work with Fort Riley's range control.

William Reid of the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation retired after 20 years of civilian service. He plans to enjoy retirement in the Junction City community.

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100th MPAD/Bromley

Survey helps identify area problems

U.S. Army Corps of Engineer civilian employees Fred Nightengale (center left) and Elvin Antonio (center right) discuss ways to improve the water quality with the men of Jorfa Melleb village near Taji, Iraq, while Capt. Alan Hicks (right rear), commander of Civil Affairs Team A, provides security and Atlanta Journal Constitution reporter Moni Basu looks on. Soldiers of the 490th Civil Affairs Battalion, 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery; 1st Battalion, 118th Field Artillery; and the Army Corps of Engineers conducted a civil affairs survey of the rural areas around Camp Taji Aug. 13. The surveys help members of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, identify social, economic and health problems in their area of operations.

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Servicemembers keep smoking despite threat

By Samantha L. Quigley
AFPS

WASHINGTON — The recent lung cancer death of broadcasting legend Peter Jennings, an admitted long-time smoker, has again brought smoking and its dangers to the forefront of public consciousness.

While an estimated 25 percent of Americans smoke, the military's numbers hover at 34 percent, according to Col. Gerald Wayne Talcott with the Air Force Medical Support Agency, in Falls Church, Va. That's an increase of 4 percent for the military since 2002.

"We do have a higher prevalence of smoking for our youngest people in the military," Talcott said. "Now, if you look at officers, that's not the case. But for our youngest members, that's our E-1s through E-4s, ... the overall prevalence is a little bit higher than the national average."

"It's a good suspicion" that the war is a factor in the increase of military smokers, he added.

Servicemembers who smoke often claim it's a stress reliever. Talcott said that might be true, but only for people who already are addicted. Before addiction occurs, smoking actually increases stress on the body, he explained.

Smokers may see their habit as a personal risk, but it affects force readiness, Talcott said. Even among smokers who have no ongoing diseases related to smoking, it impairs night vision, weakens the immune system and can

lengthen healing time. Smokers also may have more frequent upper-respiratory ailments.

Tobacco use also affects families, the colonel said.

"We have a lot of young people that are just starting families," Talcott said. "It has an impact on those young children as well. If you're smoking around them, their risk for upper respiratory infections goes up as well."

Smoking is a deceptive risk for younger people, since they don't necessarily feel the immediate ramifications. But, if a smoker quits, as more than 50 percent of Defense Department personnel who smoke have expressed a desire to do, there are benefits to be reaped.

"Your body has a very recuperative ability," Talcott said. "We have a very young population, so the sooner you quit and the less amount of time you smoke, the faster your body repairs itself. Within 10 to 15 years (of quitting smoking) your risk for cancer, if you quit early enough, ... is the almost the same as it would be for a nonsmoker."

Servicemembers have multiple excuses for not quitting. The fear of failure or a failed first attempt often keeps smokers from trying to quit again, Talcott said. However, he said, a failure does not mean that a second, or even a third, attempt is going to fail.

"You aren't always successful the first time," he said. "What we know is that it seems like the more people try to quit, the more likely they are to quit successful-

ly."

Some smokers, especially women, are afraid to kick the smoking habit out of fear that they will gain weight. That's not a good enough excuse, Talcott said. A person would have to gain 100 pounds to equal the negative health effects of continued smoking, he said.

Nor is the weight-gain theory necessarily true. Among recruits in basic training — where smoking is disallowed, meals are controlled and exercise is a must — there is virtually no weight gain, Talcott said.

Help is available for those who wish to quit but think they need help. DoD offers smoking cessation classes in nearly all medical treatment facilities, and nicotine-replacement therapies are available.

DoD also is working with primary care physicians to help them spot tobacco use early and provide messages about quitting. The Tricare Web site, www.tricare.osd.mil, also offers information on why kicking the habit is a good idea and how to quit.

The military also is working to make smoking less attractive by hitting servicemembers who smoke in the wallet.

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service is restricted to discounting tobacco products no more than 5 percent below what they would cost outside a military installation. This is a change from deeper discounts that were once offered, officials said.

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Commentary

Friday, September 9, 2005

Fort Riley Post

Page 5

Riley Roundtable

This week's question:

How has closing the Henry Drive access affected your drives to and from work at Fort Riley?



Frances Alaimo
Human Resources Assistant
at CPAC and military spouse
Home: Rochester, N.Y.

"The more traffic to the other gates makes it take longer to get back on Fort Riley after lunch. I do think the transition is going smoothly."



Jessica Barbera
Former AAFES employee
Home: Phoenix, Ariz.

"(The bridge closure) hasn't affected me at all because I use the Ogden gate."



Michele Espimosa
Military spouse
Home: Tucson, Ariz.

"(The bridge closure) really hasn't affected me because I go through the Grant or Washington entrances."



Ernie Martin
Recreation aide, MWR
Home: Pulaski, Tenn.

"I live in Manhattan, so I use the Ogden entrance. The construction on Fort Riley Boulevard by the Holiday Inn delays my time getting home in the afternoon."



Spec. Michael Potter
Company B, 1st Engineer Battalion
Home: Poteau, Okla.

"I usually take Trooper (gate) in the morning and Grant in the afternoon, so (the bridge closure) hasn't affected me."

Next week's question:

How do you feel about the government bashing being done regarding relief efforts after Hurricane Katrina?

Opinions may be e-mailed to the editor at mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil or faxed to the editor at 239-2592. Opinions must reach the editor by close of business Tuesdays to appear in the following Friday's paper.

By Dr. Richard Elliston
LACH Podiatrist

For those with diabetes, taking an active role in your health care, to include foot problems, can prevent serious complications. Because diabetes can damage nerves, you may not realize a small cut or blister until it becomes a large sore.

Diabetes can also reduce blood flow so it is harder and takes longer for an injury to heal. Because high blood sugar impairs the ability of your immune system to resist invading germs, your risk for infection is increased.

Infections can lead to serious complications requiring toe, foot or leg amputation. Daily examinations can help avoid some problems by spotting them early. Although you should have



Dr. Richard Elliston

your feet examined by a doctor

yearly, you can check your own feet every day. Using your hands and eyes, check for blisters, cuts, cracks, peeling, wrinkling or ulcerations. Redness, red streaks, swelling, color changes and in-grown toenails are potential problems.

If you're unable to see any part of your foot, use a mirror or ask a family member to help you examine your feet. Though some small cuts or blisters may heal on their own, it's always wise to consult a health care provider if

you find any of the above conditions during your self-examination.

Athlete's foot is one common fungal infection. It can occur between the toes, at the toenail or on the sides and soles of your feet. Signs to watch for are itching or cracking, peeling and wrinkling of the skin. Bacterial infections may cause redness, red streaks, warmth, swelling, drainage, pain or pus. If you have any of these signs of infection, seek medical care immediately. Minor problems can lead to major ones if left untreated.

Another common problem with diabetes is foot ulcers. These begin as a minor injury, such as a cut. With the possibility of decreased sensation due to nerve damage, you might not initially realize there is a problem. Foot ulcers are commonly found on the ball of the foot or bottom

of the big toe, but can occur anywhere. If not properly treated, they can become infected and progress into open wounds that can spread to the bone. Difficult to treat ulcers may lead to amputation. This is why treating with an over-the-counter medication is not effective. Possible treatment would include cleaning, bandaging, a medication and possibly a cast or special shoe to help protect the injured area.

Prevention and self-care can help diabetics avoid foot problems and lead a healthier life. For more information, call the Irwin Army Community Hospital Nurse Advice Line at 239-DOCS (3627). They will help answer questions or arrange necessary appointments.

Dr. (Lt. Col.) Richard Elliston is a podiatrist at Irwin Army Community Hospital.

It's a crime

Shoplifters at Riley face losing everything

By Christine Harlan
Fort Riley AAFES rep

Military servicemembers spend years building careers on values such as trust, competency and responsibility, all of which can come crashing down with one shoplifting incident.

For those who take such a risk anyway, the Fort Riley exchange uses several means to prevent shoplifting and supports legislation to recover stolen merchandise.

Shoplifting in military exchanges costs servicemembers millions of dollars annually and the post exchange staff does what it can to prevent that loss. In 2004, 122 shoplifters were caught on Fort Riley.

AAFES loss prevention associates focus on deterring shoplifting by identifying areas that tend to have high pilferage rates.

These areas include electronics, sporting goods and cosmetics. Most AAFES exchanges have some type of surveillance, whether it is cameras, detectives or both to monitor these areas

and try to prevent shoplifting before it occurs.

If a customer has passed the opportunity to pay for merchandise, loss prevention associates turn the issue over to military police.

In addition to action pursued by military police, the Federal Claims Collection Act allows AAFES to enact a Civil Recovery Program that began March 1, 2002.

The flat administrative cost, applicable to every shoplifting incident, is \$200; and there may be further fees, depending on the

condition of the recovered stolen merchandise.

"The costs involved in shoplifting affects more than just the shoplifter," said Fort Riley PX General Manager Debbie Julian.

"AAFES has a mission to return dividends to Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs, so it ultimately affects everyone," she said.

Civil recovery allows AAFES to recoup some of the cost associated with shoplifting; however, the damage to a career and reputation can be irreparable.

Letter to the editor

Let them fill our shoes

So many things in this world aggravate people. Rude drivers, loud music, uncontrollable children. The list could go on forever. What aggravates me the most is bumper stickers that read "Anti-war" and "No Iraq War."

People have the freedom to support and speak what they want, but do these people realize that had it not been for the men and women in the service and their families, they would not have the freedoms they have?

They proudly support our men and women in uniform, yet they do not support what we stand for. My husband has not had to go to war. I have, however, come close to losing one of our dearest friends due to an improvised explosive device. The day I found out my friend was injured, I saw a bumper sticker that read, "Proudly Support The US Military." It reminded me that it is not often that our men and women get told "thank you."

You do not have to go overseas or fight in a war to deserve to be told "thank you." No one seems to realize that those who serve our wonderful country also choose to give up a lot of their freedoms. To see stickers, signs, shirts, etc., that express ideas

against what we live for and do is aggravating.

Let these people come fill our shoes. Let them see that being part of the military is no cup of tea or by no means an easy job. I have seen the sticker that says, "Army (or whatever branch of service) Wife Toughest Job in the Army."

I disagree. Being a military family is the toughest job. I am truly sorry and hurting for those wives, husbands, children, mothers and fathers that have lost their loved ones. I have unfortunately watched as a family received the news their loved one was hurt or died while in the line of duty.

I want the men and women of service at Fort Riley to know that their job, whether stateside or overseas, is greatly appreciated. You do not hear it enough and you so deserve to.

I may be the wife of Pfc. Hurley, but I am married to the military, and that makes every one of you family. Thank you for your dedication and service to protect our country and our freedoms.

Shawna R. Hurley
Wife of Pfc. Richard Hurley
172nd Chemical Company

Grunt By Wayne Uhden



FORT RILEY POST

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What are your concerns or suggestions for improvement?

Your name (optional) and phone number (if you would like to talk about your ideas): _____



Post news in brief

New programs to be explained

Education Services will host an open presentation regarding three new programs at Fort Riley Sept. 13. The presentation will be held at Riley's Conference Center from 1 to 3:30 p.m. The three new programs are:

1 - A Certificate in Homeland Security through South-west College

2 - A Bachelor of Science in Emergency and Disaster Management through Upper Iowa University

3 - A Master's Degree in Business Administration

A representative from each college will be available to answer any questions. It is open to the entire community: Soldiers, family members, Department of the Army civilians, retirees and veterans.

For more information, send e-mail to moralea1@riley.army.mil or william.crawford1@us.army.mil

CID offers

\$1,000 reward

The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command is offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the identification, apprehension and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the larceny and arson of a 2004 maroon Dodge Intrepid, Kansas License Number ONEAL2, Vehicle Identification Number 2B3HD46R44H622706.

The vehicle was stolen between 9:25 p.m. May 13, 2005, and 6:30 a.m. May 14, 2005, from Roosevelt Street on Fort Riley.

Anyone with information about this incident should call Special Agent Charles Baker at the Fort Riley CID office, 239-6767.

Network shifts 'In Step' times

Channel 13 plans to shift some show times for "In Step With Fort Riley" from its normal 7 a.m. Sunday slot to another time slot to accommodate the Jerry Lewis Labor Day telethon and some sports programming.

"In Step With Fort Riley" will air at 4:30 a.m. on Sept. 10, Oct. 15 and Dec. 3 and 24 instead of 7 a.m. Sunday those weeks.

Family program conferences set

The Army Family Action Plan annual adult and youth conferences will be conducted in October to air concerns about life at Fort Riley and to suggest changes that should be made.

The Youth Action Conference will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 1 at the Teen Center, Building 5800. The Family Action Conference will run from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 12-13 at Riley's Conference Center.

For more information, call 239-9435.

Environmental training slated

The Environmental Division, DPW has scheduled the following training courses: Environmental Team Training: Class begins at 9 a.m. each day, Sept. 12-13 in Room 6, Building 407.

Environmental Team Training Refresher: Class starts at 9 a.m. Sept. 20 in Room 6, Building 407.

Battery Hazard Awareness Training (Code Name Lithium): Class starts at 10 a.m. every Wednesday of each month in Building 1930 at Camp Funston. This class lasts one hour.

For information or to enroll in a class, call 239-0446 or check with the battalion's schools noncommissioned officer.



Multiple offensive operations over the past two weeks in Afghanistan's northern Paktika province netted nine suspected terrorists, Combined Forces Command Afghanistan officials reported Sept. 5.

Afghan forces supported by Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 508th Infantry (Airborne), detained the suspects as part of multiple offensive operations to maintain a stable environment in the area, officials said.

Four suspected leaders and advisors of a criminal cell were detained in Spina Village, Omna district, along with Taliban propaganda on audio tapes and ammunition.

Three others were detained in the Sharan district with improvised explosive device materials in their possession, including explosives, wires and cell phones, officials said. Those detained have been linked to a bomb-making cell working in the region.

Acting on multiple intelligence sources and tips from concerned citizens, multinational forces raided a suspected terrorist location east of Al-Amiriyah, Iraq, capturing several terror suspects and destroying a weapons cache Sept. 2. Multinational Force Iraq officials reported.

Twelve suspected terrorists were arrested during the raid. U.S. military officials in Baghdad said the terrorists are suspected of transporting and employing improvised explosive devices and coordinating ambushes with small arms and crew-served weapons against Iraqi security and Coalition

forces. Three vehicles loaded with weapons were also discovered and destroyed by Coalition forces, officials said.

Another tip from a civilian helped Soldiers from Task Force Liberty's 1st Brigade Combat Team find and defuse a 155mm artillery round buried beside a road near Balad Sept. 2, officials reported.

The device was rigged to detonate on command as an improvised explosive device.

The Soldiers also captured six suspected terrorists fleeing the scene in the Tikrit area. The suspects were in a house washing their hands and attempting to change clothes when they were captured, officials said.

In northern Mosul, multinational forces from Task Force Freedom captured 32 suspected terrorists Sept. 1 and 2, officials noted.

Two insurgents were detained by Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment, during a cordon-and-search operation.

Two more terrorists were captured in eastern Mosul Sept. 1 after they fired small-arms weapons at Coalition soldiers searching a home in eastern Mosul, officials said.

Local civilians pointed out a vehicle that had been used in mortar attacks, and further investigation led to the confiscation of drums of AK-47 rounds, officials reported.

Another 21 insurgents suspected of terrorist activities in northwest Tal Afar were cap-

tured Sept. 2.

Soldiers of 1st Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, also detained seven individuals suspected of terrorist activity during a cordon-and-search operation in Tal Afar Sept. 1, officials said.

Task Force Liberty Soldiers thwarted an imminent ambush in Ad Duluiyah Sept. 2 and detained the four would-be attackers, officials in Tikrit reported.

More terrorists were stopped when Coalition soldiers identified an ambush setup and called in attack helicopters to provide support that caused the attackers to surrender, officials said.

During questioning, the detainees provided the location of four more insurgents, who officials said were also detained in Ad Duluiyah.

A man claiming to be an Iraqi police officer was captured in Ramadi as he attempted to gain passage through an entry control point, officials noted.

Soldiers of the 3rd Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 1st Iraqi Intervention Force, were conducting security and observation activities when approached by the military-aged male.

The man produced various identification items and attempted to bribe the troops in an effort to gain access, officials reported.

The man continued to change stories, to include claiming to be a police officer.

Compiled from Armed Forces Press Service and Army News Service releases.

11 Soldiers found guilty, sentenced

Staff Judge Advocate

The government has tried the following cases and received the following results in courts martial at Fort Riley July 27 through Aug. 29:

On Aug. 29, Pvt. Pablo Solano was found guilty of desertion with intent to avoid hazardous duty in Iraq. The military judge sentenced him to be reduced to pay grade E1, to forfeit all pay and allowances, to be confined for one year and to be discharged from the service with a Bad Conduct Discharge.

On Aug. 23, Pvt. Jason Finck, was found guilty of desertion terminated by apprehension, larceny of military property and housebreaking. The military judge sentenced him to forfeit all pay and allowances, to be confined for four years and to be discharged from the service with a Dishonorable Discharge.

On Aug. 17, Pvt. Carlos Fuentes was found guilty of desertion terminated by apprehension and being absent without leave. The military judge sentenced him to forfeit all pay and allowances, to be confined for 16 months and to be discharged from the service with a Bad Conduct Discharge.

On Aug. 16, Spc. Jon David L. Miller was found guilty of assault upon a child under 16 years of age. The military judge sentenced him to be reduced to pay grade E1 and to be confined for 12 months.

On Aug. 10, Spc. Kevin K. Brown was found guilty of being absent without leave and wrongful use of marijuana. The military judge sentenced him to be reduced to pay grade E1, to forfeit all pay and allowances, to be confined for seven months and to be discharged from the service with a Bad Conduct Discharge.

On Aug. 9, Pvt. Anthony Cole was found guilty of being absent without leave and wrongful use of marijuana and cocaine. The military judge sentenced him to forfeit all pay and allowances, to be confined for 15 months and to be dis-

charged from the service with a Bad Conduct Discharge.

On Aug. 3, Spc. Justin R. Pinter was found guilty of desertion. The military judge sentenced him to be reduced to pay grade E1, to forfeit all pay and allowances, to be confined for one year and to be discharged from the service with a Bad Conduct Discharge.

Also on Aug. 3, Pfc. Dustin E. Ramos was found guilty of being absent without leave, missing movement to Iraq and wrongful use of marijuana. The military judge sentenced him to be reduced to pay grade E1, to forfeit all pay and allowances, to be confined for 13 months and to be discharged from the service with a Bad Conduct Discharge.

On Aug. 2, Pvt. Carlos J. Rodriguez-Ortiz was found guilty of missing movement to Iraq, being absent without leave, disrespect toward a superior noncommissioned officer and willful disobedience of a superior commissioned officer. The military judge sentenced him to forfeit all pay and allowances, to be confined for 18 months, and to be discharged from the service with a Bad Conduct Discharge.

Also on Aug. 2, Staff Sgt. Ricky Wilson was found guilty of wrongful use of marijuana, distribution of marijuana, communicating a threat and adultery. The military judge sentenced him to be reduced to pay grade E1, to be confined for 42 months and to be discharged from the service with a Bad Conduct Discharge.

On July 27, Pvt. Michael D. Brown was found guilty of failure to go to appointed place of duty, being absent without leave, wrongful appropriation, forgery, wrongful use of a controlled substance, wrongful possession of a controlled substance and willfully disobeying the command of a superior commissioned officer. The military judge sentenced him to be reduced to pay grade E1, to forfeit all pay and allowances, to be confined for two years and to be discharged from the service with a Bad Conduct Discharge.

Guardsmen divert car bomb

By Matthew Wester
3rd BCT PAO

TAJI, Iraq - Sometimes Soldiers perform best when they are in the most stressful situations.

That was true of Soldiers with Company B, 1st Battalion, 115th Regiment, 29th Infantry Division, serving with the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, on the morning of Aug. 28.

Through quick and decisive action, the Maryland National Guard Soldiers diverted a car bomb from its intended target and saved many lives.

Co. B Commander, Capt. Brian S. Borakove, an Arlington, Va., native, Soldiers from his company's 1st Platoon were conducting a mounted patrol when they noticed a suspicious vehicle driving through the town of Saba Al Bor.

Co. B runs patrols in the area around the clock and has become very familiar with the residents and traffic patterns.

"By 'living' there, you know what should and shouldn't be there," Borakove said.

The platoon leader, 1st Lt. Michael Kirtland, decided to search the car and another car

traveling with it. He directed the drivers to pull to the side of the road.

When the Soldiers were preparing to search the rear car, the driver detonated the explosives-laden vehicle.

The dismounted Soldiers were wounded and their vehicle became a burning hulk.

Their comrades sprang into action, securing the area and aiding the wounded.

"One of the guys ran through a cloud of black smoke, found his buddy, pulled him to safety and started treatment," said Sgt. 1st Class Patrick M. Carey, platoon sergeant for 1st Pln. "Everybody did a great job. The lieutenant's driver (Spc. Ernest Miller IV) was still working the radio while the vehicle was on fire."

Kirtland pulled the vehicle's gunner out of the burning humvee.

If the Soldiers hadn't stopped the two cars, "it would have been a mass casualty incident," Carey said. "The cars were completely destroyed, so we know they were packing a lot of explosives."

"We believe (the car bomber) was headed to another target," Borakove said. "I believe the Sol-

diers on the patrol saved the lives of others at checkpoints in the area."

The senior leaders of the company praised the performance of their troops.

"Our Soldiers performed well during crisis," said 1st Sgt. Donald R. Connolly. "Their training and skill showed through, and they all made us very proud."

"I'm extremely proud of how they handled themselves after contact with the enemy," Borakove said. "Their actions showed the great confidence they have in each other."

The two Soldiers wounded in the attack were evacuated to a medical facility in Germany and are recovering from their wounds.

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Air Guard aviators rescue hundreds of Katrina victims



ANG Photo/Ware

ANG PhotoWare
Capt. Erika Smith of the 43rd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, Pope Air Force Base, N.C., talks to a patient being transported from the airport in New Orleans. These patients were taken to awaiting medical personnel in Texas on a C130H from the 130th Airlift Wing, West Virginia Air National Guard, Charleston, W.V.

By Thomas Kielbasa
Army News Service

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla. — Florida Army National Guard aviators had transported nearly 600 evacuees from areas hardest hit by Hurricane Katrina in Louisiana and Mississippi as of Sept. 3.

Soldiers from the Jacksonville-based 1st Battalion, 111th Aviation Regiment, and the Brooksville-based 1st Battalion, 171st Aviation Regiment, are flying UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters and a CH-47 Chinook helicopter into the devastated areas and transporting evacuees to areas less damaged by the hurricane.

The Category 4 Hurricane Katrina, which struck south Louisiana on Aug. 29, has caused catastrophic devastation to the area and prompted an ongoing multi-agency, multi-state relief effort.

According to the Florida

National Guard State Aviation Office, seven Florida helicopters are conducting hurricane relief operations in the affected areas and helped transport 597 evacuees between Aug. 30 and Sept. 1.

"All of those missions were conducted in just a short span of time — a few days after the hurricane landed," Aviation Operations Officer Capt. Randy McCreary explained. "The Florida National Guard helicopters were among those shown on national news stations hoisting evacuees up from floodwaters and rooftops to safety."

As of Sept. 1, the crews and their helicopters had also helped transport 1,824 gallons of water and 2,200 pounds of Meals Ready to Eat.

More than 450 Florida Guardsmen were scheduled to deploy over the weekend to link up with the growing military presence in Mississippi and Louisiana.

Nearly 20 Florida National Guard Special Forces Soldiers of

the 3rd Battalion, 20th Special Forces Group, are assisting with rescue and recovery efforts south of New Orleans, and more are scheduled to join the recovery missions.

Other updates on the hurricane recovery operation were provided by military officials:

Almost 22,000 National Guard members are in place providing security, assisting with food and water distribution, and conducting search and rescue missions in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida.

• Over the next few days, that number will rise to nearly 30,000 as the Guard continues to deploy personnel and equipment to the hardest hit areas.

- 6,500 National Guard troops poured into the greater New Orleans area to help restore order and continue relief operations.
- More than 320,000 National

Guard Soldiers and Airmen from every state, as well as their equipment, are available to support emergency operations if needed, officials said.

- More than 400 members of the Army Corps of Engineers are on site in New Orleans, working to repair the city's levee system and removing floodwaters from the city.

Senior Airman Thomas Kielbasa serves with Florida National Guard Public Affairs.

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Keeping watch

Spc. Jerry Francis provides mounted security with an M240-B machinegun during a humanitarian mission in Taji, Iraq, Aug. 13. Francis deployed to Iraq with 1st Battalion, 118th Field Artillery Regiment, in support of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team from Fort Riley. He was taking part in a civil affairs survey of area conditions needing improvement.

100th MPAD/Bromley



AER to aid victims

By LaDonna S. Davis
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — For active and retired Soldiers and their family members affected by Hurricane Katrina, Army Emergency Relief will assist with short-term needs, such as food, lodging, clothing, gas, and other financial needs, such as rent deposits and bill payment.

"As long as the emergency exists, we will assist," said retired Col. Dennis Spiegel, deputy director of administration of Army Emergency Relief.

AER is a private nonprofit organization whose sole mission is to help Soldiers and their

dependents in times of financial hardships.

AER provides interest-free loans with delay-start repayment, as well as grants on an as-needed basis.

AER obtains most of its funds through donations from the general public and the "Army Family."

Donations can be sent to the Army Emergency Relief Headquarters at 200 Stovall St., Alexandria, VA 22332.

Any military or family members affected by Hurricane Katrina who are in need of financial assistance can call the Army Emergency Relief.

The toll free number is (866) 878-6378.

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America's troops respond to disaster

Servicemembers agree they would rather be on scene helping than doing nothing

By Donna Miles
AFPS

WASHINGTON — Servicemembers supporting relief efforts along the Gulf Coast agree that while it's heartbreaking to see the massive devastation left in Hurricane Katrina's wake, they're happy to be able to roll up their sleeves to help their fellow countrymen.

That's the across-the-board assessment of the military responders who, U.S. Northern Command officials reported Sept. 6, number almost 14,000 active duty troops and more than 38,000 National Guardsmen, a force expected to continue to grow in the days ahead.

Regardless of their missions — conducting search-and-rescue operations, evacuating displaced residents, providing law-and-order support, or distributing food and water — troops supporting the hurricane-relief operation agree that they're part of one of the most important missions they've ever participated in, right in their own country.

"I hate this situation, but it makes you feel good to do something positive," said Army Sgt. Will Jones of the Alabama National Guard's 1206th Quartermaster Company, which is distributing food, water, personal items and other essentials to Katrina victims in Mississippi.

Like many servicemembers, Jones said it's particularly difficult to see such loss and suffering within the United States. "What makes this worse is that this is at home," he said.

"We will go anywhere we need to go," said Navy Cmdr. Joseph Paulding, an anesthesiologist from Naval Hospital Jacksonville,

DoD updates military support

AFPS

WASHINGTON — Almost 60,000 U.S. servicemembers were aiding in rescue and recovery efforts in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida as of Sept. 6, Defense Department officials said.

Army Corps of Engineers personnel have closed the breaches in the levees surrounding New Orleans and have begun pumping out the water that has inundated the city, officials said.

Roughly 41,500 National Guard personnel are on duty in the area devastated by Hurricane Katrina. Almost 17,500 active duty personnel are on ships or on the ground in the region.

Joint Task Force Katrina is being relocated to the USS Two Jima. The amphibious ship is docked in New Orleans, and the shift will improve command and control of the rescue and recovery efforts, DoD officials said.

The military is also providing 355 helicopters and 93 airplanes. The aircraft have flown

1,771 sorties to date, including 799 in one 24-hour period, officials said.

Soldiers from the 82nd Airborne Division based at Fort Bragg, N.C., and from the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas, are arriving in New Orleans. Marines from Camp Pendleton, Calif., and Camp Lejeune, N.C., are moving into the Mississippi region. Also, 1,573 members of the Special Purpose Marine Ground Task Force have arrived in the U.S. Gulf Coast area and are en route to Naval Air Station New Orleans to support relief operations.

Communications among rescuers has been a problem. DoD is providing 1,500 mobile radios to Mississippi officials.

The department will also provide communications support to officials in Louisiana, officials said.

The Air National Guard is supporting firefighting efforts in the region. Two specially equipped Air Force C-130 aircraft are at Naval Air Station Pensacola, Fla., are available to fly firefighting missions.

Fla., who is headed to New Orleans to provide critically needed medical support. "But when you go to help someone in your own country, in your own backyard, it gives you a good feeling inside that you're doing the right thing for a really good purpose."

"We want to help people in our own backyard," echoed Marine Sgt. Maj. Larry Jones of Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 461, one of three from Marine Corps Air Station New River, N.C., that deployed to the region to help with search-and-rescue missions

and distribute humanitarian relief supplies.

"You watch the news and the people there have no (homes or anything), so any kind of assistance we can provide will surely be appreciated by the people of New Orleans," Jones said.

Some troops supporting the operation acknowledge that the mission is far removed from their typical focus. "We're primarily a fighting force and not a humanitarian aid force," said Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Josh Van Dri aboard the USS Harry S. Truman, which arrived along the coast to support relief operations. "But going to help people lets them see the wide range of what the military can do."

It also gives Dri and his fellow servicemembers a true sense of making a difference. "It makes me proud — Americans helping Americans," he said.

The mission "feels a little different than Iraq," said Army Chief Warrant Officer T.J. Saari, a Black Hawk helicopter pilot from the 1st Cavalry Division. "Over there, it's the job you signed up for," he said. "Here, we're just lending out a helping hand."

Like Dri, Saari said he's proud to be a part of that effort. "I'm just glad to help," he said.

Throughout the military, officials report no lack of volunteers for the mission. "People here want to help," said Navy Master Chief Petty Officer Mike Keck of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 21, which deployed from Naval Air Station North Island, Calif. "We have had so many Sailors who've wanted to volunteer to go to New Orleans that we have had to turn them away, and that makes me proud to see this squadron and the Sailors volunteering to help."

"We train and train and train to

respond to any situation we're needed for," said Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Jonathan Tillman, a corpsman aboard the USS Two Jima, which is serving as a launch pad for amphibious and air operations in the region.

Tillman, a Louisiana native, said he eagerly embraced the opportunity to take part in the mission. "For me and a lot of my shipmates from this part of the country, the chance to help out in any way is one I would never pass up," he said. "I want to be able to say I did everything I possibly could to help out."

"This is a great effort and I'm glad I got the chance to come out here and help," agreed Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Marlana Cox, a corpsman with the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, operating at Naval Air Station Belle Chasse, La., 10 miles southeast of New Orleans. "I didn't want to stay back and do nothing when there are people in a crisis and they need help."

"When you are called upon and

you roll into a situation like this, you just roll up your sleeves and jump in wherever you can," said Air Force Master Sgt. Kem Redic, a team leader for the 55th Services Squadron based at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., now operating at the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport.

"We're coming in here because American citizens need us to come in and help them out," said Marine Maj. Devin C. Young, staff judge advocate of the 24th MEU.

Airman 1st Class Keith Torgerson, who deployed to New Orleans from Offutt to distribute water, food and other support to displaced New Orleans residents as they awaited evacuation from the airport, said the mission gave him a real sense of serving his country. "It makes you feel like you're accomplishing something great," he said.

Public affairs staffs throughout the services contributed to this story via their material in news articles and releases.

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National Guard sets up hotlines for info

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Families of Deployed Army National Guard Soldiers affected by Hurricane Katrina are asked to call (888) 777-7731 so that Guard members can be informed of their family's situation.

Army Reserve family members and Soldiers affected by Hurricane Katrina also have a newly created call center. The toll free number for the center is (877) 464-9330 or DSN 367-9330 from a military phone.

Any military members or families in need of counseling services may call the Military One Source number, (800) 342-9647.

A National Guard brigade from Louisiana and another from Mississippi are currently in Iraq. If families of those Soldiers call the National Guard hotline at (888) 777-7731, officials said it will enable the Guard to tell the troops of their family's current situation.

"There are four ways (for families) to connect with their servicemember," said Col. Anthony Baker, chief of the National

Guard Bureau Family Programs. "Either through the Family Assistance Center, state Family Program director, wing Family Program coordinator or through the rear detachment of their unit."

"We will bridge that gap for them by making sure they have all of the information necessary," he said. "In cases where they can't make that contact, we will make it for them."

Deployed servicemembers can also call the hotline to contact their families.

"If a servicemember calls in

and asks us to find their family, we'll call one or all of the services in that state and say, 'please connect, find the family and get back to us,' so we can let that servicemember know that they are all right," Baker said.

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Fort Riley Sports & Recreation

Friday, September 9, 2005

America's Warfighting Center

Page 11

Sports news in brief

KU to honor military 'heroes'

The Kansas University Athletics Department invites all military members and civilian emergency and education professionals to Memorial Stadium Sept. 10 for the university's inaugural "Heroes Night." The Jayhawks host Appalachian State and kickoff is at 6 p.m.

Military veterans; members of the armed forces; law enforcement, fire and emergency personnel; and teachers with valid identification can buy tickets for \$5. Family members can buy discounted tickets for \$25. Tickets normally cost \$35.

For more information about "Heroes Night," call Kansas Athletics at (800)34-HAWKS.

Speedway deal eases expense

Thunderhill Speedway in Mayetta, Kan., will honor U.S. troops during a special Military Appreciation Night Sept. 10. Anyone showing a valid military ID will be granted free admission to the races for the whole family.

The evening's card includes races in all five regular classes and the Mid-West Outlaw Lightning Sprints. The evening's highlight will be the MO-KAN Vintage Car race. Gates open at 5 p.m. Hot laps begin at 7 p.m. and racing starts at 7:30 p.m.

For more information, call (785) 966-2575 or (785) 966-2844.

Briefings set for fit program

Briefings for Session III of the My Life Fitness Program at Fort Riley will be from noon to 1 p.m. Sept. 9, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Sept. 14, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Sept. 19 and noon to 1 p.m. Sept. 21 at King Field House.

Full-time and regular part-time appropriated fund and nonappropriated fund civilian employees in the My Life Fitness Program are authorized three work hours each week of the six-month program to participate with the goal of improving their physical fitness. Registration and packets will be due beginning at 8:30 a.m. Sept. 27 at King Field House. Registration will be done at the field house only and participation will be limited to the first 30 people to register.

For more information, call 239-2813 or 239-3146.

Golf course sells equipment

The Custer Hill Golf Course is selling golf equipment through Sept. 25. Equipment includes Cobra drivers, fairway woods, golf bags and shoes.

Operating hours are 1 to 7 p.m. Monday and 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. For more information, call 784-6000.

Rec center hours to change

Fort Riley's Outdoor Recreation Center will change its operating hours Sept. 11. New hours will be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. The center will close Sunday and Monday.

Weekend rental rates will be for Saturday through Tuesday. For more information, call Carol Alexander at 239-2363.

Byers wins military wrestling gold

By Tim Hips
Army News Service

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Staff Sgt. Dremiel Byers won a gold medal in the Greco-Roman heavyweight division of the 2005 Conseil International du Sport Militaire World Wrestling Championships Aug. 21 at Vilnius, Lithuania.

For his efforts, Byers was named TheMat.com Wrestler of the Week for Aug. 16-22. He joined Sgt. Oscar Wood as the only Soldiers to earn that honor from the official Web site for USA Wrestling, said Gary Abbott, director of communications for the

organization.

Wood earned the honor for the week of June 22-28, 2004 after winning two matches in the Titan Games.

The CISM World Wrestling Championships feature the world's top amateur wrestlers serving in the military. Byers defeated 2004 Olympian Marek Mikulski of Poland in their 254.5-pound division championship match.

A member of the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program, Byers is stationed at Fort Carson, Colo., and ranked No. 1 in the United States in his weight class. In 2002, he won the Greco-Roman

heavyweight crown in the World Championships of Wrestling and was named the Army's Male Athlete of the Year.

A native of Kings Mountain, N.C., Byers is scheduled to compete Sept. 26 through Oct. 2 in the 2005 World Championships of Wrestling at Budapest, Hungary.

Sgt. Glenn Garrison, another WCAP wrestler, won bronze in the Greco-Roman 145.5-pound division of the CISM championships. He was the only other U.S. athlete to medal in the tournament.

The U.S. military team finished eighth among 22 countries in Greco-Roman competition.



Staff Sgt. Dremiel Byers avoids getting lifted off the mat during the U.S. Wrestling World Team Trials at Ames, Iowa.

Army News Service/Hips

Rugged play



Photo by David Disney

K-State student Louis Disney turns to pass the ball before being tackled from behind by K-State/Fort Riley Rugby Club alumnus Derrick Borgman. The club played alumni Sept. 3 in its first game of the fall season.

K-State/Fort Riley team begins season

By Jay Baker

DA public affairs intern

The Kansas State University/Fort Riley Rugby Football Club lost its first game of the season, playing the club's alumni Sept. 3, but won something more important, said Head Coach Danny Blea.

"The score doesn't matter. The team played against older guys, more skilled guys and guys who have played at the national level," Blea said. "The alumni know they should win the game."

The combined college and Soldier team fielded 25 players to go against 30 veteran players from club teams as recent as last year to earlier teams on which retired Lt. Col. William L. Jackman played. He commanded a cavalry squadron at Fort Riley in the early 1980s. So far, six Soldiers play on this year's team.

"We play the game in quarters so we rotate everybody in. The game is an instructional period for the young guys. We coach them during the game," Blea said.

Want to join?

For more information about the K-State/Fort Riley Rugby Football Club, contact Club President Luke Amey at lia3396@ksu.edu.

The spirit of the alumni game is to play fair, play hard and to ease the player's anxieties about playing their first collegiate game, Blea said.

Jackman said he played rugby while attending the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He started a Fort Riley Rugby Club in 1982. The club existed until 1986, when the team combined with the university, Jackman said.

Jackman played in the alumni game Sept. 3 and has played the game for more than 40 years, he said.

"Coming back here is emotional for me. I watched all three of my sons who graduated from K-State play rugby here," he said.

Blea and Jackman said their love for

rugby comes from the ethos of the game.

"You are expected to play hard and you are expected to be a friend. You run into and over each other on the field and when you come off the field, you're friends," Jackman said.

Other veteran players suited up for the Sept. 3 game included Bill Sexton, head coach for Truman State University's Rugby Football Club in Kirksville, Mo.

"I started playing for K-State in the fall of '79 (and continued) until 1985, when I finished my Ph.D. Danny came in '81," Sexton said.

"The alumni game is a way for the former players to reconnect with their history and to come back to where it (rugby) all started for them. These guys spent three to four days a week for three to four years practicing, traveling and playing games together fall and spring. You get to know each other. These are some of the best friends you will ever make," Sexton said.

The team's next match is 12:30 p.m. Sept. 10 at Lincoln, Neb.

Army racer takes second

Dragster now first place in fuel series

By William Thurmond
Army News Service

INDIANAPOLIS RACEWAY PARK, Ill. — The Army drag racing team didn't take home any trophies at this Labor Day weekend's 51st Mac Tools U.S. Nationals, but their strong performance earned them improved positions in the Powerade championship points battle.

Leading the way was top-fueler Tony "Sarge" Schumacher, whose nitro-powered Army dragster dominated the weekend, smashing track records in speed and elapsed times.

Schumacher's poise and focus showed in his superb reaction times, as he beat eight of his nine opponents off the starting line and blasted to the finish at over 329 miles per hour. His best quarter-mile was timed at 4.459 seconds, a feat he achieved twice in a row in cooler evening conditions Sept. 2 and 3.

The final match between Schumacher and Larry Dixon's Miller Lite/Ameriquest dragster was quick and to the point. Following a rapid staging sequence, both drivers leapt ahead at the green light. But within 100 feet it was clear that the Army would not be celebrating this day.

"We left the starting line and hit the wheelie bar, which lifted the back end off the ground and cost us the race," said Schumacher as he met with fans and signed autographs following his loss.

"We've won here three times in a row and had a chance to win a fourth, so yeah, it's disappointing when you have a car that's as good as ours. But this U.S. Army team's the best in the world and we

See Dragster, Page 13



Alan Hynek

By Alan Hynek
Fish and Wildlife Biologist

Although the "dog days" of summer are still upon us, it is not too early to start thinking about the fall hunting seasons.

The information in this column relates the basic information you will need to get prepared for the season.

Additional information can be obtained at the Conservation Office, Building 1020, and from the Fort Riley Web page at www.riley.army.mil.

On the Wildside:

News About Nature

Post deer permits

All persons, including archery, muzzleloader and firearms hunters, are required to receive a pre-hunt briefing at the Conservation Office. Deer permit briefings will be available at the Conservation Office during normal business hours.

Additional off-hours briefings will occur at 5:15 p.m. on Sept. 22, 23 and 30 and Nov. 22 and 23. The briefing

will take about 10 minutes.

Upon completion of the briefing, each individual will be issued a 2005 Fort Riley Deer Permit that will allow them to hunt during the early muzzleloader, youth/handicap, archery and regular firearms seasons. The only further restriction is that either Sex Firearms Permits are issued through a lottery drawing and that no more than two firearms permits will be issued to any individual (one either sex, one

See Hunting, Page 13





JIM CLARK - SUZUKI
6 x 21.25"
Black Only
FULL PAGE SUZUKI





Sports news in brief

Cross-country races slated

The 2005 Fort Riley battalion-level cross-country championship will be run Sept. 15 at the Custer Hill Golf Course.

The championship will be conducted in the following divisions of competition: Women's Open Division, Women's Masters Division, Men's Open Division and Men's Masters Division. The age cutoff date for the Masters' divisions is 35 years old as of Sept. 15, 2005.

Starting time for the Women's Open Division and the men's and women's Masters Divisions will be 3 p.m. Starting time for the Men's Open Division will be 3:45 p.m.

A roster of battalion team members and all individual registrations must be submitted to the sports office in King Field House no later than Sept. 13.

For more information, call Barry Sunstrom at 239-3945.

Bowlers can compete

The Fort Riley battalion-level bowling tournament will be conducted Sept. 19-22 at the Custer Hill lanes.

Each battalion commander is authorized to enter two men's teams and one women's team.

Team rosters will consist of not more than four bowlers and one alternate. Rosters will include full name, rank and unit of each member.

Rosters must be submitted to the sports office in King Field House no later than end of business Sept. 13.

For more information, call Barry Sunstrom at 239-3945.



Tony Schumacher powers the U.S. Army top fuel dragster off the line during his quarter-final run Sept. 5.

Dragster

continued from page 11

proved it again this weekend. I'm proud to drive for them and have the Army and my crew behind me."

Perhaps the week's devastation on the Gulf coast was on his mind when Schumacher reflected on his team's weekend.

"I'm disappointed, but now I'm gonna' go home and spend a week with my family. Racing is outstanding but we know that there

are bigger things."

Despite the loss, the Army's dominance put them back on top of the top fuel series lead, 40 points ahead of Doug Kalitta.

Another Army racer, Angelle Sampey, rode her way into a semi-final berth. Sampey was finally defeated by fellow Suzuki rider Steve Johnson, who just beat her to the line by .085 of a second.

Golf winners named

Special to the Post

The Custer Hill Golf Championships were held the last weekend in August.

Scratch play results were:

Champion: Chief Warrant Officer John McLocklin, 3rd Brigade, 75th Division, hit a 74 and 78 for 152 total.

Second Place: Capt. Chris May, 15th Personnel Support Battalion, hit an 80 and 75 for 155 total.

Third Place: hit a 75 and 80 for 155 total but lost the playoff with May.

Net Division results were:
Champion: Guillermo Quiles,

Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation, (36 handicap) hit a 66 and 63 for 129 total.

Second Place: Mike Lopez, retiree (12 handicap), hit a 66 and 78 for 144 total.

Third Place: Mike Steffens, DMWR, (8 handicap) hit a 74 and 75 for 149 total.

PRAIRIE HAWK CYCLE &
LEATHER,
1 x 1.5"
Black Only
1st, Prairie Hawk Sept.

Hunting

continued from page 11

antlerless or two antlerless).

Fort Riley Firearms Deer Permits are free of charge but are required to limit firearms deer hunting participation to maintain a quality herd and to provide a safe hunt.

The Early Muzzleloader Season will be Sept. 10-23 and the Youth/Handicap Season is Sept. 24-25. The Archery Season will be Oct. 1 through Dec. 31 and the regular firearms season will be Nov. 25-27, Dec. 17-21 and Dec. 27-30. Firearms tags are limited.

The application period for Either Sex Firearms Tags is Oct. 3-28 and the drawing is on Nov. 3. A leftover drawing will occur on Nov. 21.

Fall turkey season

The Fall Turkey Season on Fort

Riley will be Oct. 1 through Nov. 29, Dec. 12-31 and Jan. 9-31, 2006. Hunters may possess one turkey tag and up to three game tags.

Elk

If you are lucky enough to be drawn for a Kansas Elk Tag, Fort Riley is the place to be. In recent years, the application period for Kansas Elk Tags has been mid-June to mid-July. If you weren't lucky on the draw, you can still enjoy the state's only free-ranging elk herd through binoculars or the camera lens.

Game birds

Mourning dove season started Sept. 1 and closes on Oct. 14. A second dove season runs Nov. 1-16. Early teal season will be Sept.

17-25.

Prairie chicken season will consist of an early season, Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 and a late season Nov. 19 to Jan. 31.

Pheasant and quail seasons open up on Nov. 12.

Training comes first

The military mission has precedence over the announced hunting seasons.

The Fort Riley Military Reservation or portions of it may be closed at anytime without prior notice due to military activities. Security measures may be implemented at anytime without notice.

Call 239-6211 or visit the Conservation Office, Building 1020 on Huebner Road, for answers to any questions.

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Fans celebrate K-State/Fort Riley Day

More than 600 Soldiers honored during pre-game, halftime activities on Wagner Field

By April Blackmon

Staff writer

Some 43,000 fans gave a long standing ovation to the 600-plus Soldiers who marched onto Kansas State University's Wagner Field at halftime Sept. 3.

The Soldiers were honored as part of K-State/Fort Riley Day as the Wildcats took on Florida International University and won, 35-21.

Before the game, Willie the Wildcat rode into the stadium military fashion, dressed in BDUs and riding in a "Humvee."

A six-man color guard from the 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, marched onto the field, posting the colors for the national anthem. Soon after, two Black Hawk helicopters from the 82nd Medical Company (Air Ambulance) flew over the stadium.

Chief Warrant Officer James Martin, a Purple Heart recipient, piloted the lead helicopter. His crew included Chief Warrant Officer Lawrence Leuci, Spc. Stephen Hoyt and Spc. Clayton Bennett.

Chief Warrant Officer Christian Beck, who received a Purple Heart and Bronze Star Medal for Valor for service in Iraq, piloted the sec-



Post/Skidmore

K-State students high-five Soldiers as they leave Wagner Field after having been recognized during a halftime ceremony honoring them.

ond helicopter. His crew included Chief Warrant Officer Todd Jacobson, Staff Sgt. Jon Griswold and Staff Sgt. Lanier Patterson.

Purple Heart recipients Staff Sgt. Brian Robbins and Spc. John Jayme, both of 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, represented Fort Riley's wounded and participated in the coin toss.

At halftime, Soldiers from the 1st Bde., 1st Inf. Div.; 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division; 3rd

Brigade, 75th Division; 924th Military Police Battalion; and the 82nd Med. Co. (AA), stood in formation in the middle of the foot-



Post/Skidmore

More than 600 Soldiers representing Fort Riley were honored during a special K-State/Fort Riley Day Sept. 3 on Wagner Field during pre-game and halftime activities.

ball field while the K-State Marching Band performed patriotic songs.

Several members of the 24th

Infantry Division (Mechanized) unfolded the garrison flag on the field during the halftime program.

Later in the game, when K-State

scored its 28th point, several Soldiers followed a Willie the Wildcat tradition and did push-ups for each Wildcat point on the scoreboard.

Soldiers who participated in the pre-game and halftime events received free tickets and watched the game from the north end zone.

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Fort Riley Community Life

Friday, September 9, 2005

America's Warfighting Center

Page 15

Community news briefly

School district recognized

Standard & Poor's School Evaluation Services has recognized Geary County Unified School District 475 for significantly narrowing the black-white achievement gap.

USD 475 is one of 22 districts in Kansas to receive this recognition, which was announced Aug. 23.

To be recognized, a school district must serve grades K-12; enroll on average 30 student per subgroup per level; reduce the achievement gap in overall reading and math proficiency rates between at least one set of student subgroups by more than 5 percentage points over the 2002-03 and the 2003-04 school years; and, simultaneously raise the reading and math proficiency rates of both subgroups being compared.

Standard & Poor's will list the recognized districts on SchoolMatters.com, a Web site developed by the National Education Data Partnership.

Bible study offered

Officers' Christian Fellowship groups meet on- and off-post on different days of the week for Bible study.

To find out more, officers are invited to the OCF Fall Kickoff and Potluck at Moon Lake's North Pavilion at 5:30 p.m. Sept. 11.

They also may contact Ben or Laura Saine at 717-2760, Dave or Felicit Velloney at 717-2820, Jess or Sarah Curry at 532-9177 or Bob or Renee Teetsel at 784-4480.

Chapel's office offers studies

Studies centered on the best-selling book "Purpose Driven Life" by Pastor Rick Warren are planned for Wednesdays beginning Sept. 14.

One of the studies will meet in the basement of Saint Mary's Chapel, Building 3. The point of contact for this study is Capt. Mike Taylor at 239-2095.

The other study will meet in the 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, conference room, Building 7108. The POC for this study is Capt. Kevin Morgan at 239-1056.

Both studies will meet from about 11:30 a.m. to noon for a brown bag lunch and fellowship followed by the study from noon to 1 p.m.

Participants are encouraged to come and go as needed. The books are being provided at no cost by the Command Chaplain's Office.

Library opens pages on fun

Saturday storytimes at the Post Library, Building 5306, will now be offered at 1:30 p.m. and at 4 p.m., due to increasing attendance. All children and their caregivers are welcome to attend either session.

September storytimes will feature "This Little Piggy" stories, starting with "Pig and Crow" on Sept. 10. In this story by Kay Choroa, a lonely pig learns that only by loving someone else will he never be lonely again.

The library is open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. on Sundays. The library is closed on Mondays.

For more information, call 239-5305.

Study finds war relationships hard

Kansas State University
Special to the Post

MANHATTAN — Serving in combat can affect the relationship satisfaction of military couples, according to preliminary results of a study by a Kansas State University professor.

Briana Nelson Goff, associate professor of marriage and family therapy in K-State's School of Family Studies and Human Services, has conducted surveys and interviews with 47 military couples from Fort Riley and Fort Leavenworth during the last year.

The majority of the participating couples are married. The others have been dating for at least a year. In each case, the male member of the couple has served in the war in Iraq or in Afghanistan.

Nelson Goff said her research is the first comprehensive study to compare the similarities between couples who are dealing with the after-effects of war and those who deal with similar types of traumatic experiences.

Her survey was designed to find and gauge the level of individual trauma symptoms related to the war experience and if they are affecting the couples' relationship.

All of the men reported war trauma and other traumatic experiences, Nelson Goff said.

"The wives didn't have direct war-related trauma but some have had other traumatic experiences from their past, such as childhood abuse, rape or domestic violence, and many reported their husband's deployment as traumatic to them," she said.

"What we're finding is that the individual symptoms of the Soldiers and their partners are negatively affecting their relationship satisfaction. The more individual symptoms they are reporting, the less satisfied they are with their relationship," Nelson Goff said.

The most common individual symptoms of the study's participants are depression and anxiety, as well as dissociation and re-experiencing the traumatic events.

"It's actually symptoms of anxiety in the Soldiers and their spouses that are most affecting their relationships," she said. "These aren't just general symptoms of anxiety; they are specific to the traumatic experiences members of each couple have had," she said.

"The feelings of anxiety and the re-experiencing of events by the Soldiers are specifically related to

their trauma symptoms and could be related to their deployment or to other traumatic experiences they have had," she said. "In the wives, their anxiety may be related to their experiences with the deployment, but that's not something we know for sure. We will have to get into our interview data to determine this more specifically."

A large majority of the Soldiers identified their deployment as their most traumatic event, Nelson Goff said.

"We found that 82 percent of the Soldiers reported that their

See Study, Page 17

Sound blasts



Post/Perrin

Fans crowd the barricade at the Crossfade concert Sept. 4 at Hangar 817 at Marshall Army Air Field. The concert drew a crowd of more than 1,200 attendees.



Post/Perrin

Ed Sloan of Crossfade sings in Hangar 817 at Marshall Army Air Field. The band performed at Fort Riley Sept. 4 as part of the 2005 Army Concert Tour.

Crossfade rocks crowd at air field's Hangar 817

By Stephanie Perrin
Staff writer

Some 1,200 people gathered at Marshall Army Airfield's Hangar 817 Sept. 4 to attend a band performance by Crossfade.

The event was part of the 2005 Army Concert Tour and was hosted by the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

The headlining band was chosen by Army Entertainment officials, according to Beth Ernst, Fort Riley MWR marketing and advertising director.

The concert was opened by the local Manhattan-based band, Addictive Behavior. The band is made up of three Manhattan High School students and a Kansas State University student.

Some audience members said they attended the concert not because of Crossfade but to watch the performance of Addictive Behavior.

"I came out because I know the Addic-

tive Behavior boys," Manhattan resident Clark Peterson said. He said he decided to attend the concert because he hadn't seen the band perform recently.

Three of the band members have been performing together since the eighth grade, said Paul McGillis, father of band member Chase McGillis.

Paul McGillis, who is retired from the Army and was previously stationed at Fort Riley, said he was excited to see his son's music group perform on the base.

About 90 minutes after Addictive Behavior began their performance, Crossfade took the stage. The band has been rising on music charts with their hit single "Cold."

"We had a concert booked, but we didn't know who the band was going to be. Then we found out about six weeks ago it was going to be Crossfade," Ernst said.

Officials hoped to sell out at 1,600 tickets but were pleased to receive ticket sales of more than 1,200, Ernst said.

John Stone coming to post

Country artist set to perform at Open House

By Jay Baker

DA public affairs intern

Cavalry Parade Field will transform from carnival to concert after the Fort Riley Open House and Apple Day festival daytime events from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 1.

The evening portion of Open House is set for 6 to 10 p.m. The main event will be a free open-air concert for the public with country music artist John Stone, said Scott Scherberger with the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

The concert is scheduled from 7 to 9:30 p.m., he said.

"At the concert, there will be room for dancing, lawn chairs and blankets," Scherberger said.

Kimberly Palmese, Stone's publicist, said, "John will put on a great show. He is a true entertainer. He watches the crowd's excitement and responds to them by taking requests, dancing in the audience and bringing people on stage."

Stone performed for the president and "First Lady" during the 2004 campaign at the Country Music Awards Festival this summer and for Katie Couric during the "Today Show," Palmese said.

He began recording his first CD, "Meet John Stone," in September 2003 after his national debut on "Nashville Star," a televised amateur talent contest in January 2003, Palmese said. He finished the competition in the top 25.

Since 2003, Stone completed his independent CD and the most popular songs, she said are "Shame on Me" and "Hell and Half of Georgia."

"Fans love to hear John do Johnny Cash, Elvis and Bruce Springsteen," she added.

Marriage and Military Life

Couples must prepare for career obstacles

By Gene-Thomas Gomulka
Retired Navy Chaplain

Dear Gene-Thomas, I am engaged and we are getting married in two months prior to my fiancé's deployment to Iraq. When I hear about the high number of divorces there are in the military, I get worried about what might lie ahead for us. Are these just pre-marriage jitters that most couples

experience?

Dear Julie,

Just as the military prepares personnel for dangers they might face in combat, so too should couples prepare themselves for obstacles they might encounter while being married in the military. In order to reduce your chances of being divorced, it is important that you talk about how you will deal with

— Julie

any number of issues that have weakened, and in some cases destroyed, other couples' relationships.

You might consider asking some of the following questions:

Have you discussed how you will deal with multiple long-term separations (i.e., deployments) that can take a toll on even the best of relationships?

About the author

Gene-Thomas Gomulka is a retired Navy chaplain.

Have a question? Write Gene-Thomas at letters@plaineet.net



See Marriage, Page 16



Community news briefly

School offers MBA program

The University of Mary "America's Leadership University" will offer an accelerated master's in business administration degree program on post. The courses will begin January 2006.

The accelerated MBA classes meet one night per week. The 33-hour graduate degree may be completed in 15 months.

Karen Houchins, local UoM coordinator will be at the Riley Conference Center from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Sept. 13 to explain the program.

Houchins may be contacted at (816) 235-8815 or khouchins@umary.edu.

Programs offer kickball party

The New Parent Support Program and The Exceptional Family Member Program invite parents and their children to participate in the annual Kickball Party.

The Kickball Party will run from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Sept. 22 at the Soldier and Family Support Center, Building 7264, on Custer Hill.

Planned activities include a lot of fun running, kicking, socializing and cheering.

Those interested in attending should call representatives of the NPSP or EFMP at 239-9435.

Post yard sale scheduled

Fort Riley's next post-wide yard sale is scheduled for Sept. 17. The yard sale will begin at 8 a.m. and continue through the day until 4 p.m. The sale is open to the public, who will have to enter the post at Trooper Drive, 12th Street off Kansas Highway 18 or Ogden access points.

Anyone driving a vehicle without a Department of Defense registration sticker will have to provide a current vehicle registration, insurance card and photo IDs of all adult occupants in the vehicle.

Spouses' club slates luncheon

The Fort Riley Officers' and Civilians' Spouses' Club will host their September luncheon, "Kansas FYI," at 11:30 a.m. Sept. 15 at Riley's Conference Center.

The luncheon will feature several Kansas businesses and home businesses. The club also will be conducting an "Extreme Makeover-OCSC Edition" in which three ladies will be selected for makeovers.

For childcare reservations, call Debra Parker at 784-2793.

Post bike patrol sets up rodeos

The Fort Riley Military Police Bike Patrol will sponsor three bike rodeos at post elementary schools in coming months. Participants will have to ride through a cone obstacle course. The patrol members also will inspect bikes and make adjustments to fit bikes to riders and will check helmets.

Bike registration will also be available.

Rodeos are scheduled from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sept. 24 at Morris Hill Elementary School and from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Oct. 22 at Ware Elementary School.

All participants must bring helmets and working bikes and wear closed-toe shoes.

For more information, call 239-2226.

Stay In Step with Fort Riley

See what's happening on Fort Riley cable Channel 2 every day at 6:30 a.m., 8 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Youth wins regional

By Shelley Anderson-Buckley
Child and Youth Services

She's been one of the leading ladies in a play and recognized as a talented artist for her sculpture. That's just been some of what has kept 9-year-old Paige Miller busy for the past six months.

Paige raised her eyebrows to think when asked how long she's been working in clay and sculpting. "Since I was about 6," she replied.

She credits her mother with supporting her interests in the arts, and the conversation quickly turns to her love of all things artistic: music, drawing, painting and clay, just for starters.

Paige has been at School Age Services since she was in kindergarten. While at SAS she participated in the Boys and Girls Club National Fine Arts Exhibit. The exhibit starts at the local level and artwork is judged on categories, such as age group and media.

Paige's sculpture entry was selected to advance to the regional level for her age group. Pictures of her sculpture were sent to Texas for judging.



Paige Miller

Her piece was among the finalists, but didn't finish on top. Her infectious smile didn't change and without missing a beat she responded, "I like all the certificates anyway."

Other youth participating in the local exhibit included Elizabeth Wheeler, Paden Smith, Ashanti Rucker, Kendrick Hairston, Jamie Phillips, Ashlie Campbell, Timothy Lewis, Rebecca Burroughs, Sara Walanthus, Alex Kuntz, Rena Montessano, Eric Dixon, Ana Perez and Dalynn Taylor.

The group project submitted by School Age Services received an honorable mention from the Southwest region.

Again, her detail-oriented piece was chosen to advance in competition for her age and media.

The pictures were submitted to the national level for consideration.

Marriage

continued from page 15

Are you in agreement about making the military a career or leaving after fulfilling an initial contract?

Do you agree about purchasing the home or cars you can truly afford to buy?

These are but a few questions that military couples need to address and resolve in a mutual and satisfactory manner.

While it would be nice if all of our plans for the future came into being, the reality is that unexpected problems sometimes occur that test our ability to cope with certain tragedies. How does a wife deal with the loss of her husband in combat while she is pregnant and taking care of her 2-year-old child? How does an engaged Marine cope with the fact that his fiancée broke off their engagement after he lost his leg stepping on a mine?

Grief and pain that derive

from a particular loss do not only involve the passing of a relative or friend, they also can result from being sent to a remote unaccompanied duty station while one's family remains behind, deploying when one's wife is due to give birth before the spouse's return; being transferred around the time one's child is just about to graduate from school; being relocated to an undesirable assignment where one or both partners strongly do not want to go; or not being selected for promotion, particularly when one believes that far less qualified people were selected.

It also has been said, "For a couple to say they are truly happy, they have to experience at least five good times for every one bad time."

What ratio of good to bad times do you believe exists in your relationship? Has your number of good times to bad times grown, decreased or remained constant over the course of time?

In addition to utilizing the services of chaplains and counselors who are trained to help you cope with various challenges involved in military life, don't hesitate to avail yourself of all of the military support services that can impact your quality of life and help you achieve the happiness you seek for yourself and your loved ones.

It has been said, "Happiness derives from an appreciation of who we are and what we have received. Whereas, unhappiness stems from a preoccupation with whom we are not or what we do not have." If marriage involves both good and bad times, do you

Do you have a community-related story to share?
Call the editor at 239-8854. Let's talk.

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Pets need to be restrained in cars

Kansas State University

MANHATTAN — Grab your keys. Head to the car. Your dog's right behind you, eager for a dose of fresh air. Driving down the street, your family pet hangs his head out the window, enjoying the sunshine. Does anyone see a problem?

Often, pets are forgotten when it comes to bucking up. However, a Kansas State University veterinarian says dogs and cats are just as susceptible to injury as young children when riding in a car.

Dr. William Fortney, assistant professor of diagnostic medicine/pathobiology, said pets need to be restrained when traveling inside a vehicle. If a pet leans out the window and the driver happens to swerve, the animal could be thrown out. The animal may get eye injuries from bugs, weeds, seeds or rocks.

The dangers of riding in the back of a truck are just as high. If an animal is standing up when the driver stops or swerves, it could fall out. Besides hitting the ground and potentially receiving broken bones, bruises, scrapes and skin removed, animals also can be run over.

Dangers to the owners themselves are also present. Animals that are loose inside or outside the vehicle can be distracting, Fortney said. There's a chance the animal could get underfoot, causing the driver to be unable to brake.

"Anytime you have a distraction,

you increase the risk of being in an accident," he said.

Compared to the risk, the options of securing pets are relatively inexpensive, Fortney said. Choices include pet carriers, which can be secured with car seat belts, and seat belts made especially for securing pets. Restraining devices are also made for use in the truck bed.

Some states have laws requiring pets in the back of trucks to be tethered, although Kansas is not one of them. A lawmaker in Pennsylvania is even backing a potential law requiring dog seat belts inside the car, based on the recommendation of an 11-year-old. Fortney said the law is a good idea - he said everything possible should be done to decrease injuries to pets.

However, he said he's not sure if the law would be adopted - some may not be for it due to inconvenience or cost.

"Even if it didn't pass, it could make owners aware that there are options out there," Fortney said. "Just because a bill doesn't pass doesn't mean there isn't some benefit."



Post/Perin

Lilly (left) and Deuce enjoy a Sunday ride in the back of their owner's pickup Aug. 28. If a proposed ordinance is passed, it will become illegal for owner's to allow their dogs to ride in the back of trucks untethered within Manhattan City limits.

The Post is always looking for story ideas. Call 239-8854. Let's talk.

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Study continued from page 15

deployment to Iraq or Afghanistan or an experience related to their deployment was the most traumatic experience they have had," she said. "Related to that, 24 percent of the wives said that their husband's deployment has been their most traumatic experience. I think it is quite interesting that nearly one in four of the wives also identified the deployment as their most traumatic experience."

Her findings about deployment run counter to a 2003 military study taken to assess the mental health of Soldiers returning from Iraq or Afghanistan. "That study found Soldiers were reporting very low stress related to their deployment," she said.

Her survey data also suggest that a spouse's individual symptoms can affect their partner's symptoms, which is known as secondary trauma.

"The spouses, particularly the husbands' individual symptoms, are affecting the wives," Nelson Goff said. "In addition, a spouse's individual trauma symptoms can predict the other spouse's individual symptoms. So, one partner's depression and anxiety can be related to the other partner's symptoms of depression or anxiety or individual stress symptoms."

Data from the interview component of her study will be assessed next and should help to enhance her study's findings, Nelson Goff said.







Travel & Fun in Kansas

Friday, September 9, 2005

America's Warfighting Center

Page 19

Leisuretime ideas

At the movies:

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$3.50 for adults and \$1.75 for children 11 and under. Children under the age of 5 are free except during children's matinees or expected sell-outs.

Sept. 9 – Must Love Dogs (PG-13)

Sept. 10 – Deuce Bigalow: European Gigolo (R)

Sept. 11 – Must Love Dogs (PG-13)

Sept. 15 – Deuce Bigalow: European Gigolo (R)

Sept. 16 – Dukes of Hazzard (PG-13)

For more information, call 784-2226 or 784-2640.

Salina:

What: "Beauty and the Beast." Theater production.

When: Sept. 9 through Oct. 7

Where: Salina Community Theatre, 303 E. Iron Ave.

Phone: (785) 827-6126

Admission: charged

Atchison:

What: Haunted Trolley Tour. Hour-long trolley tour of Most Haunted Town in Kansas narrated by costumed storyteller.

When: Friday and Saturday evenings through Oct. 31

Where: 200 S. 10th St.

Phone: (913) 367-2427 or (800) 234-1854

Admission: \$8

Bonner Springs:

What: Kansas City Renaissance Festival. Enchanting outdoor fall festival depicting 16th-century English village complete with 13 stages of entertainment, food, and costumed characters.

When: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekends only through Oct. 16

Where: 628 N. 126th St.

Phone: (913) 721-1075 or (800) 373-0357

Admission: \$7 to \$15

Lawrence:

What: Fall Arts & Crafts Festival. Annual festival presenting handmade crafts and original artwork by more than 150 artists and crafts people.

When: Noon to 5 p.m. Sept. 11

Where: 12th and Massachusetts, South Park

Phone: (785) 832-7930

Admission: Free

Topeka:

What: 30th annual Huff 'n Puff Hot Air Balloon Rally. Dozens of hot air balloons fill the skies during this family-friendly event. Tethered rides available.

When: 6 p.m. launch, 7:30 p.m. glow Sept. 9; 7 a.m. launch Sept. 10 and 11

Where: SE 29th and Croco Road, Timman Circle at Lake Shawnee

Phone: (785) 554-2003

Admission: Free

Herington:

What: Hope Heritage Festival. Fun run/walk, car show, carnival, kid's games, beer garden, and Bluegrass/Gospel.

When: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sept. 10 and 10 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Sept. 11

Where: Downtown, Hope (near Herington)

Phone: (785) 366-7218

Admission: Free

KSU books Gorbachev, TV mogul

Special to the Post

MANHATTAN – Former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and media mogul and philanthropist Ted Turner will deliver Landon Lectures at Kansas State University this fall.

Gorbachev will speak at 3:30 p.m. Oct. 28 in McCain Auditorium. Turner's lecture will be at 10:30 a.m. Nov. 28, also in McCain Auditorium. Both lectures are free and the public is invited.

Charles Reagan, chair of the

Landon Lecture Series, said both Gorbachev and Turner have played key roles in shaping today's world.

"As the former president of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev's appearance continues the Landon Lecture Series' long

history of bringing foreign leaders, such as Sir Harold Wilson, Jose Napoleon Duarte and Abba Eban, to Kansas State University," Reagan said.

"As the founder of CNN and 24-hour television news, Ted Turner also continues the Landon

Lecture tradition of inviting the nation's top journalists and broadcasters to speak," he said.

In March 1985, Gorbachev became general secretary of the Soviet Union's Communist Party

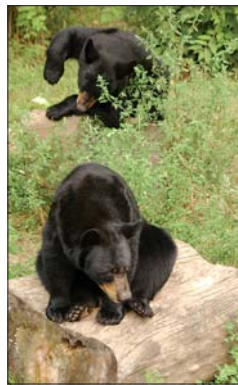
See Lectures, Page 20

Animals up close



Post/Blackmon

A Topeka Zoo worker tempts one of the elephants with some food to keep it away from a door being opened.



Post/Blackmon

Two of the Topeka Zoo's three black bears enjoy the sunny weather gracing the state's capital city recently.

Zoo, park offer variety for day of family pleasure

By Stephanie Perrin

Staff writer

Visitors to the Topeka Zoological Park can walk through a tropical rain forest, pet a pygmy goat and maybe walk beneath a playful gorilla sitting on the ceiling of a clear glass tunnel.

The 160-acre zoo sits in Topeka's Gage Park and features almost 400 different animals. The park also offers an aquatic center, rides in a miniature train and a "bark park."

The bark park is a fenced off area containing an obstacle course for pet dogs.

"One of the strong features about this zoo is you can spend about a hour or hour and a half and see a lot of animals and it's not a lot of hard walking," Zoo Director Michael Coker said.

Some of the most popular exhibits include elephants, orangutans and black bears, he said.

The Black Bear Woods exhibit includes two bald eagles, two arctic foxes and the zoo's three North American black bears.

If you go:

Directions: Take Interstate 70 east to the Gage Boulevard exit. From there, go south on Gage to Sixth Street. Turn right at the first left (Zoo Parkway) into Gage Park. The zoo parking lot will be on your left.

Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (gates close to arrivals at 4:30 p.m.) daily except Christmas and New Years.

Admission: Adults, \$4.50; children 3 to 12 years old, \$3; children 2 and younger, free.

Sneak and Peak are sister bears. They were joined recently by Juneau, an orphan who was rescued from possible destruction when caught raiding trashcans in an Alaskan residential area, Coker said.

Over at the OK to Touch Corral, goats,

See Zoo, Page 20

Exhibit features farming, ranching

By Beth Bohn

Kansas State University

MANHATTAN – Thomas Hart Benton, John Stuart Curry and Grant Wood are among the Regionalist and Kansas artists featured in a new exhibition opening Aug. 30 at Kansas State University's Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art.

"All in a Day's Work: Images of Farming and Ranching from the Collection of the Beach Museum of Art" will be on display through December.

The exhibition features works on paper - prints, drawings and watercolors - depicting the agricultural heritage of Kansas and the surrounding region from the 1920s through the 1960s.

Some of the Kansas artists to be featured include William Dickerson, John Helm, Herschel Logan and E. Herbert Dimes.

Many of the artists included in the exhibition were members of the Prairie Print Makers, and some were involved in the Works Progress Administration.

"During the 1930s, Kansas native John Stuart Curry and fellow Regionalist artist Grant Wood and Thomas Hart Benton brought the Midwest to the national forefront with an emphasis on rural beauty, work ethic and agriculture," said Katharine Schlageck, curator of the exhibition and education and public services supervisor at the Beach Museum. "Their idealized work

If you go:

The Beach Museum of Art is on the south-east corner of the K-State campus at 14th Street and Anderson Avenue.

Admission to the museum is free, and complimentary visitor parking is available adjacent to the facility.

Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

See Museum, Page 21

Self-taught Wakefield artist exhibits paintings

By Gail Parsons

Special to the Post

Flora Milani Alsop taught herself to paint and, in doing so, has become an inspiration to anyone with an artistic spirit but may think they are too old to become an artist or need special training to put mental pictures onto canvas.

Alsop, a native of Italy, came to live in Wakefield in 1946. Her paintings, however, portray many different locales. Her seascapes are so vivid one can almost taste the salty spray of the water or hear the soft waves lapping on the shore.

The Junction City Art Gallery will exhibit selected works by Alsop through Oct. 1.

Alsop paints landscapes, por-

traits and still life with all mediums, but her preference lies with acrylics and landscapes.

"Landscape is the easy thing to do. You can mess around and no one knows the difference," she said. "With landscapes you can be free."

The freedom a person must have to release their inhibitions and to create what's in their mind is one of the stumbling blocks many new artists have, Alsop said.

Designers tend to be exact and detailed, but to be an artist "you have to loosen up," she said. "That can be very difficult."

Many of Alsop's paintings are of places she has visited around the world as well as her shore front hometown of Bari.

Had she stayed in Italy, Alsop may have eventually worked in the family furniture business. She recalled her childhood days watching the love and care her father put into the furniture he designed.

At an early age, Alsop began showing signs that she had inherited her family's design and artistic abilities. She won her first art scholarship when she was in the second grade; a few years later, war would reshape the direction Alsop's life would take.

"I was in the fourth grade when the war started. The soldiers moved in and we were kicked out of school. We didn't have a school," she said.

See Artist, Page 21



JCAC/Parsons

Jo Vega (left), Nina Cringan (center) and artist Flora Alsop choose paintings for Alsop's art exhibit at the Junction City Art Gallery. The Junction City Arts Council will host the exhibit through Oct. 1.





Lectures continued from page 19

Central Committee, the highest post in the nation and party hierarchy.

Through a series of economic and democratic reforms, known as "perestroika" and "glasnost," he helped transform the Soviet Union and its society.

Gorbachev was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1990 for his efforts to help end the Cold War and loosen Soviet control of Eastern Europe.

Gorbachev is president of the International Non-Governmental Foundation for Socio-Economic and Political Studies, also known as the Gorbachev Foundation.

Its main mission is to provide in-depth analysis of the evolving social, economic and political situation in Russia and in the world.

Turner changed television news in 1980 when he launched CNN, the world's first live, round-the-clock television news network. A second all-news net-

work, Headline News, went on the air in 1982, followed by the 1985 launch of CNN International, a global news service that reaches more than 210 countries and territories worldwide.

Turner also is one of the world's most noted philanthropists. In 1997 he announced his historic pledge of up to \$1 billion to the United Nations Foundation.

The foundation awards grants in support of the goals and objectives of the United Nations to promote a more peaceful, prosperous and just world.

Turner, who manages the largest commercial bison herd in North America, also is an advocate for the environment and protecting endangered species.

In addition to his Landon Lecture, he will tour K-State's Konza Prairie Biological Station and its bison herd.



Post/Blackmon

A young visitor to the Topeka Zoo tries his hand at petting one of the Canadian geese he found walking around. Other youngsters can feed and touch a variety of animals at the zoo's OK to Touch Corral.

Zoo continued from page 19

sheep, rabbits and a pig welcome the attention of zoo visitors.

Feeding machines sit outside the pens so visitors can buy food and feed the animals that come up to their pen's railing.

A hand-washing station, restrooms and vending machines are available next to the corral for the guests' convenience.

The zoo added a Jungle Cats exhibit this past summer. It features Sumatran tigers and black leopards.

Memorial Day marked the public debut of the zoo's two lions, Asante and Zuri. Visitors can view the lions from outside their confinements or enter a "cave" to view the lions face-to-face through a glass shield.

Zoo officials plan to add a male lion with the hope of creating a breeding pride of lions.

A glass alley surrounds visitors walking through the Discovering

Apes exhibit containing orangutans and gorillas. A glass ceiling covers the exhibit's walkway and allows the gorillas to sit above the zoo's guests as they pass by.

"It really is a nice exhibit. You can have gorillas on both sides of you or sitting on top of you," Coker said.

"We have one really friendly gorilla who loves to sneak up to the glass and scare people," he said.

A new zebra exhibit is being constructed and officials plan to have the zebras at the zoo in early October.

"We're a 'master-plan' zoo," Coker said. "We have a good idea of where we're going."

The zoo staff also knows where it's taking its guests. "You have to kind of follow the path, and it leads you on an adventure," Coker said of the zoo's different attractions and exhibits.

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Top gospel vocalist to perform at McCain

Special to the Post

MANHATTAN – The 2005-06 Kansas State University McCain Performance Series begins at 8 p.m. Sept. 16 with a performance by Sandi Patty.

Patty, a 2004 Gospel Music Hall of Fame inductee, will perform a variety of spiritual, popular and patriotic songs. The audience will hear songs from Patty's latest album, "Hymns of Faith ... Songs of Inspiration."

Patty has won 39 Dove Awards and five Grammy Awards. She has had three platinum and five gold recordings.

Ticket prices for the general public are \$30 for orchestra seats and \$25 for balcony seats; for seniors and military are \$28 and \$23; for children are \$15 and \$12.50.

Tickets can be purchased at www.k-state.edu/mccain or by calling the McCain box office at (785) 532-6428 between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. weekdays.

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Museum

continued from page 19

was popular on the urban East Coast, where it showed in stark contrast to the breadlines and unemployment of the Great Depression."

Other artists portrayed the region more realistically, she said.

"Herschel Logan created hundreds of prints that captured 1930s' Kansas, including the reality of dust storms and tornadoes. Steven Dohanos and Joe Jones, in a more Social Realist style, depict how difficult farming life was."

Artist

continued from page 19

Though soldiers occupied the classrooms, the young people continued learning. Alsop recalled. They did their lessons at home, and then would go take a test. The names of the students who passed were announced on the radio, she said.

Eventually, Alsop married and left her family in Italy. Raising children kept her busy and it wasn't until after the children were all grown and moved out of the house that she started painting.

"I blame my son for it," she said.

Seeing that his mother was starting to feel lonely, he gave her a set of oil paints for Christmas.

"My thought was that maybe he was right. Maybe I should learn to do something," she said.

With no formal training, Alsop took her first tentative steps into the art world. She now has a collection of work that reflects her life from the shores of Italy to the shores of Milford Lake.

Of special interest are images that depict farm equipment from the 1920s and 1930s, such as the complicated threshing rigs run by steam tractors and sorghum mills powered by horse or mule, Schlageck said. Other works, such

as those by William Dickerson and Mary Huntoon, reflect industrial growth and technological change in agriculture during the 1940s to 1960s.

To bring the exhibition to life, Schlageck said the labels for each

work include quotes by period writers such as William Allen White; artists such as photographer J. Wes McManigal; and farmers such as Mil Penner and Lawrence Svoboda, who lived during the period.

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